

EXHIBIT

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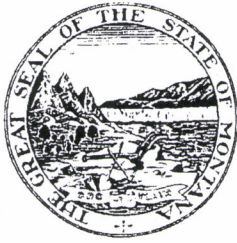
DATE

1/17/2013

DEPARTMENT OF

HB 77

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Brian Schweitzer  
GOVERNORAnna Whiting Sorrell  
DIRECTOR

## STATE OF MONTANA

www.dphhs.mt.gov

Human & Community Services Division  
PO Box 202925  
Helena, MT 59620-2925  
Phone 406 444-1788 Fax 406 444-2547PO BOX 4210  
HELENA, MT 59604-4210  
(406) 444-5622  
FAX (406) 444-1970

January 17, 2013

Representative Pat Ingraham  
P O Box 1151  
Thompson Falls, MT 59873-1151

Dear Representative Ingraham,

Thank you for your sponsorship of House Bill No. 77 that addresses obsolete language in the administration of local offices of public assistance with the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS).

As noted in our conversation with you and in testimony before the Local Government Committee, DPHHS is committed to effective communication between the department and the board of county commissioners in each county regarding public assistance in that respective county. In like manner, DPHHS makes that same communication commitment to the respective tribal government in each reservation community in regards to public assistance.

The department will communicate at least annually with the respective county commission board and/or tribal government's regarding the general operations of their local/area Office of Public Assistance. The department commits to operationalize this communication with the respective parties through administrative rule and/or department manuals related to public assistance.

Thank you again for your interest in and support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jamie Palagi in cursive script.

Jamie Palagi, Administrator  
Human and Community Services Division